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Chrono

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

9 February 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Mr. McCone, Dr. Charyk and Dr. Scoville on 9 February 1963

1. Mr. McCone discussed the difficulties we had with the NRO organization, stressed particularly the lack of communication between the two organizations. He indicated that he had forwarded a memorandum to Mr. Gilpatric outlining his ideas on the organization which were generally concurred in by Gilpatric and were being put in the form of an implementing agreement. He particularly stressed his desire to have the NRO take a more active part in controlling the operations for the NRO. He felt that the NRO was insufficiently involved in the TACKLE flights and in the SAC JRC operations. He pointed out that his recommendation involved the joint DCI/Secretary of Defense management with the Secretary of Defense as Executive Agent. The DNRO would be appointed by the Secretary of Defense with the approval of the DCI, and have a Deputy from CIA who would be also responsible for all CIA programs and interrelationships between the NRO and the intelligence community. Dr. Charyk pointed out the need for long range requirements in the satellite field and Mr. McCone said USIB had already put this in motion, although he did not believe the requirements were quite as bad as painted.

2. The management of the RX program was discussed in some detail. Dr. Charyk indicated that a number of approaches were possible, but that he recommended and desired the DCI's views on the approach which would be patterned almost exactly after the KEDLOCK AF-12 development. The Agency would be responsible for security and contracting, the Air Force for program management. This latter would be accomplished by a small cadre within the Air Force by expansion of [redacted] group at Wright Field reporting directly to a small group within Charyk's office. In this connection, I pointed out that this was a highly satisfactory procedure from our point of view, but that I felt every effort should be made to try

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and keep General Shriever actively associated with the program. Dr. Charyk indicated and it was agreed that putting it through Shriever's command channels would cause tremendous proliferation of people being involved, but he indicated that perhaps Shriever could be kept as an active participant through some advisory capacity directly in the Under Secretary's office.

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this connection DCI voiced the hope that the Congressional Committees might be reorganized so that one committee could review both DOD and CIA programs.

3. Dr. Charyk raised the question of the acceptability of Colonel Geary as the Project Officer. We indicated that he would be perfectly acceptable to the Agency, and that we would not like to see him transferred and his experience and background lost from the program. We did indicate that this would involve major new added workload, and if he were the Project Officer he would require additional assistance and manpower. The Director also indicated that he thought the Agency was thin in its manpower resources for these programs, and that we should arrange to expand this as necessary. Charyk said that with the knowledge that the Agency was agreeable to this approach he would undertake to try and organize the program in this manner within the Air Force and to establish Colonel Geary as the Project Officer. (After the session, Mr. McCone telephoned Mr. Gilpatric and informed him on the general agreement which had been reached.)

4. Dr. Charyk and I raised the question of satellite schedules. The Director reiterated his belief that the program is too thin and we need more back-up and flexibility. Dr. Charyk pointed out that some of this flexibility might require an additional pad but that he would undertake to develop a revised program to meet the desired end. Everyone expressed concern over the possible failures during the next few months when no back-ups are available.

Signed Herbert Scoville, Jr.

HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Deputy Director
(Research)

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DDR: HScoville [REDACTED] (9 Feb 63)

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